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CLASSIFICATION

SECRET CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Tangermuende Area

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 20 February 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 1

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At about 3 p.m. on 15 January 1951, four trucks [redacted] 25X1 were seen at Fischbeck, about 5 km east of Tangermuende (M 53/Y 84), moving toward Jerichow. Each truck towed an artillery piece, apparently an AT gun, of about 85 mm. \*

2. At about 10 a.m., eight officers and 40 EN were seen crossing the Elbe River near the bridge at Tangermuende in four rubber rafts, each raft carrying seven men. First, the rafts were paddled by soldiers and, later, they were propelled by outboard motors. The river-crossing equipment had been hauled on truck

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3. The barracks installation northwest of the Tangermuende railroad station, which is the only military billeting area in town, was occupied by a total of 300 to 400 troops on 24 January. The installation contains several low brick buildings and other small barracks buildings. It is bisected in the middle by a fence. Sentry guards at the southwestern section of the billeting area wore black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. Five 12-man groups were drilling in the barracks yard, where pontoons were stored under a shelter

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[redacted] Sentries at the northwestern section of the installation wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. Eight groups of about 12 men each were drilling in the yard. There was no vehicular traffic. \*\*\*

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\*\* Comment. Probably a river-crossing exercise by a component of the 890th Engr Bn of the LXXIX Pz Rifle Corps.

\*\*\* Comment. The 890th Engr Bn has been carried in Tangermuende to date.

However

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[redacted] it is believed that the unidentified engineer battalion of the 207th Pz Rifle Div may now be stationed there. The battalion was previously quartered in Hillersleben. Since a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen in the northeastern section of the barracks installation, there is definitely no engineer unit stationed there. The 890th Engr Bn was possibly transferred to Stendal.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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